

1992 FATAL VICTIMS UNDER FOUR YEARS OF AGE

From January through December 1992 there was a total of 59 children under four years of age killed in traffic collisions. In 37 of the deaths, no safety seat was present; 1 was in an adult safety belt; 5 were in incorrectly used safety seats; 3 were killed when a safety seat was available but not used; and only 11 were in safety seats that were correctly used. In the other two fatalities, safety seats were not required. [10 of the 59 victims were riding on an adult's lap.]

In the collision summaries, a star (*) after the date indicates that the victim had an Hispanic surname. 50.8% of the fatal victims (30) were in this category.

VICTIMS BY YEAR

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>KILLED</u>	<u>INJURED</u>
1992	59	4,705
1991	70	4,793
1990	64	5,109
1989	43	5,102
1988	60	4,855
1987	66	4,792
1986	50	4,212
1985	53	4,050
1984	57	4,177
1983	60	4,273
1982	46	4,679
1981	58	4,716
1980	47	4,652

27360 CITATIONS (CHP ONLY)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1992	21,578
1991	24,161
1990	21,476
1989	18,420
1988	15,196
1987	15,473
1986	12,620
1985	14,593
1984	11,879
1983	6,315*

*(1983 CITES STARTED 4/1/83)

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[The following is the format for the information contained in these reports.]

DATE TIME/CITY/COUNTY/. VICTIM. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT.
RESTRAINT USE

JANUARY

- 09* Uninc./Fresno/1753. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Speeding driver failed to stop at a stop sign and hit second vehicle. Child in second vehicle (without safety seat) suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 18 Orange/Orange/1850. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Had-been-drinking driver entered an intersection when the signal was yellow. His station wagon was struck at the left passenger door by a second vehicle. His 2-year-old and 7-year-old sons were riding in the rear cargo compartment of the station wagon, were ejected through the rear window and suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 19 Anaheim/Orange/1621. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (grandmother) failed to stop at a stop sign and hit second vehicle. None of the occupants in first vehicle were wearing safety belts or using safety seats. Child suffered fatal injuries *while riding on his mother's lap*.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 21 San Diego/San Diego/1630. 3-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (mother) made a left turn against a red arrow and her vehicle was struck by oncoming traffic. Driver and 4-year-old child wearing safety belts survived, the 3-year-old (not in a safety seat) suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT

FEBRUARY

- 01 San Diego/San Diego/1155. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (father) failed to stop at a stop sign and his vehicle was struck as it entered the intersection. The vehicle spun and rolled, ejecting the *child who was sitting unrestrained on his mother's lap*.
NO SAFETY SEAT

FEBRUARY (CONTINUED)

- 21 Uninc./San Bernardino/1415. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver (under the influence of alcohol and other drugs) drove through a stop sign at high speed and struck a second vehicle. All passengers in the DUI driver's vehicle suffered fatal injuries, including the child who was not in a safety seat.
NO SAFETY SEAT

MARCH

- 03* Uninc./Fresno/1830. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (father) for unknown reason failed to stop at stop sign and his vehicle was struck by second vehicle. *Child was seated on mother's lap.*
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 08 Los Angeles/Los Angeles/1400. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (father) failed to yield to stop sign and struck second vehicle. *Child was riding on mother's lap* with adult lap belt over his waist.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 20 Compton/Los Angeles/0535. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (father) failed to yield to a red signal and his vehicle was struck by a bus. Child, *riding on her mother's lap* suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT

APRIL

- 03 Uninc./San Bernardino/1145. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver passed a slower vehicle, swerved to avoid another slow vehicle, lost control of his vehicle and crossed into oncoming traffic striking second vehicle. Second vehicle overturned four times ejecting four passengers. All four ejected victims suffered fatal injuries, including the 3-year-old child. Driver of second vehicle was wearing a lap/shoulder safety belt and received only minor injuries.
SAFETY SEAT AVAILABLE BUT NOT USED
- 09* Uninc./Sacramento/1305. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI (Methamphetamine) driver (father) crossed over center line and struck oncoming vehicle head-on. Child was ejected from vehicle and suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT

APRIL (CONTINUED)

- 11 Uninc./Los Angeles/1716. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. A DUI driver failed to yield to red lights and siren and continued to drive on the freeway with his head bobbing from side to side and his vehicle weaving between the number 3 lane and the shoulder. DUI driver struck a van which was stopped on the shoulder. The impact moved the van into the path of a semi-truck-trailer which struck it. Child in van suffered fatal injuries.

SAFETY SEAT AVAILABLE BUT NOT USED

- 13 Sacramento/Sacramento/0654. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver in semi-truck failed to yield to stop signal and struck second vehicle broadside. The child was in a safety seat at the point of massive impact.

SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT

- 25* Los Angeles/Los Angeles/1720. 3-YR-OLD MALE. Driver in first vehicle entered an intersection with a green light and was struck by a speeding vehicle which ran the red light. Child was thrown out of the first vehicle and suffered fatal injuries when the vehicle rolled over him.

SAFETY SEAT AVAILABLE BUT NOT USED

MAY

- 03 Uninc./Tulare/1315. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE AND 1-YR OLD MALE. DUI (.19%) driver was driving at high speed when he lost control while on a bridge. He sideswiped a second vehicle, smashed head on into a third vehicle, then his vehicle became airborne and rolled into a fourth vehicle. Impact was so great with the third vehicle that all four occupants received fatal injuries.

SAFETY SEATS/MASSIVE IMPACT

- 05* Santa Maria/Santa Maria/2050. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. First vehicle was stopped at a signal when it was struck from the rear by a speeding vehicle (65 mph). First vehicle was pushed into the intersection where it was hit by a third vehicle. Child in first vehicle was in safety seat but the seat was not held in place by a safety belt.

IMPROPER USE

- 09* Uninc./San Diego/2020. 3-YR-OLD MALE. Child was seated over rear tires of a bus when a tire blew. Portions of the tire tore through the floor, entangled the child and threw him to the pavement. *A safety seat was not required in this vehicle.*

SAFETY SEAT NOT REQUIRED

MAY (CONTINUED)

- 11* Rancho Cucamonga/San Bernardino/2202. 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI driver (father) drove his speeding vehicle through a red light, struck the rear of a vehicle, lost control and struck a tree stump. Child was riding in a safety seat which was *on the mother's lap* (not attached to a safety belt).
IMPROPER USE
- 13* Uninc./Madera/0745. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (father) fell asleep and allowed vehicle to drift off highway and into a tree. *Child was riding on driver's lap* with the adult safety belt around both of them.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 17* Uninc./Ventura/1710. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver (father) dropped an open can of beer while driving. When he bent over to pick it up off the floorboard the vehicle drifted across the center line and struck a second vehicle head on. Child was lying unrestrained on rear seat of first vehicle.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 16* Los Angeles/Los Angeles/2240. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver was speeding when his pickup drifted across the center line of a curve and struck the second vehicle broadside. Restraint use was unknown, but there was no safety seat in second vehicle.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 21 Vallejo/Solano/1543. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. Limousine driver allowed his vehicle to drift over the center line and strike a second, smaller vehicle broadside. Child was seated at point of impact.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT

JUNE

- 02* Uninc./Imperial/2340. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Semi-truck-trailer driver allowed his vehicle to drift over center line and strike second vehicle. Second vehicle rolled, ejecting child.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 04* Uninc./Mendocino/2045. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (mother) allowed her vehicle to drift to the shoulder of the roadway. She then overcorrected and lost control of the vehicle which hit an embankment and overturned. The unrestrained child was partially ejected.
NO SAFETY SEAT

JUNE (CONTINUED)

- 06 Uninc./San Bernardino/0300. 2-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (father) lost control of his vehicle when it drifted onto the shoulder. Vehicle then crossed over the roadway and struck several palm trees. Child was seated at the point of impact. SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT
- 09 Uninc./El Dorado/1505. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI (0.22%) driver [mother] had taken her two children to a swimming party and had been drinking while at the party. Upon leaving, she allowed her vehicle to drift over the center line and strike a school bus head on. The impact caused the bus to slash off the top of her vehicle, inflicting fatal injuries to all occupants. SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT
- 17* Uninc./Riverside/1615. 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI driver (mother) lost control of her vehicle while driving at a high rate of speed (75 mph) and struck second vehicle head on. Child was in unattached safety seat. IMPROPER USE
- 21* Uninc./Santa Barbara/2225. 2-YR-OLD MALE. DUI (.20%) driver [father] operating his vehicle at a high rate of speed (74 mph) was unable to negotiate a curve. Vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree. NO SAFETY SEAT
- 26 Uninc./Kern/1142. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE AND 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (father & uncle) of van containing 12 passengers lost control of his vehicle when the right rear tire blew. The vehicle left the roadway and overturned ejecting the two children and the mother of one of the children. All other occupants were wearing safety belts (one other child was in a safety seat) and received only minor cuts and bruises. NO SAFETY SEAT
- 28 Perris/Riverside/1537. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver (father) allowed his vehicle to drift over center line and strike an oncoming vehicle head on. *Child was seated on her mother's lap.* No restraint use. NO SAFETY SEAT

JULY

- 02 Chino/San Bernardino/2245. TWO 2-YR-OLD FEMALES & 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI (0.11%) driver's vehicle (carrying nine unrestrained occupants) was struck from the rear by a faster moving vehicle when the DUI driver was changing lanes. Impact and subsequent vehicle collisions ejected all occupants. Seven of the nine unrestrained occupants of this vehicle suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 05* Fresno/Fresno/2222. 2-YR-OLD FEMALE. DUI driver in stolen vehicle which was being pursued, failed to stop at a stop sign and struck second vehicle broadside. Unrestrained child in second vehicle sustained fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 12* Diamond Bar/Los Angeles/0215. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (mother) was driving too fast for conditions (dark, light rain) and struck a vehicle in the roadway which had been involved in a previous collision. *The child was riding on an adult passenger's lap* in the right front seat of the pickup truck. There were also several small children riding unrestrained in the cargo area of the pickup truck. They all suffered severe injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 24* Uninc./Fresno/1410. 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI (drugs) driver [father] was operating his vehicle at a high rate of speed (75 mph) when he lost control, left the roadway and struck a tree. Unrestrained child was ejected.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 31* Delano/Kern/1100. 2-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver [father] was transporting his daughters unrestrained in the front seat of his vehicle. For unknown reasons the passenger door opened and the younger child fell out of the moving vehicle sustaining fatal injuries. The father stated that he had a child safety seat, but it was in his other vehicle.
NO SAFETY SEAT/NO COLLISION

AUGUST

- 02* Los Angeles/Los Angeles/1740. 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI (.18%) driver (father) attempted a left turn in front of oncoming traffic.
NO SAFETY SEAT

AUGUST (CONTINUED)

- 03* Uninc./Kern/0525. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (father) was weaving his speeding vehicle through traffic when he lost control. The vehicle left the roadway and overturned ejecting the unrestrained child.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 11* Bakersfield/Kern/1130. 2-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver momentarily took her eyes off the road to look at a card trick her 14-year-old son was performing. This inattention caused the driver to lose control of her vehicle which crossed through the center divider and struck an oncoming vehicle head-on. Five unrestrained occupants of the second vehicle suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 13 Uninc./Placer/1225. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (mother) for unknown reason swerved her vehicle to the left and into the immediate path of an oncoming vehicle. Child was seated at point of massive impact.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT
- 21* Hemet/Riverside/0740. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (mother) was driving in an erratic manner. She swerved her vehicle across the center line and into the path of an oncoming vehicle causing a head-on collision. The unrestrained child was ejected.
NO SAFETY SEAT

SEPTEMBER

- 04* Uninc./Riverside/1915. 3-YR-OLD MALE. DUI driver crossed over center line and struck second vehicle head-on. Unrestrained child in second vehicle suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 20* Santa Ana/Orange/1802. 2-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (hit and run) ran a red light and struck a van broadside, ejecting several passengers from the van including the child.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 21 Uninc./San Bernardino/0010. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver lost control of her vehicle which spun across highway and struck a rock outcropping. Child was in an adult lap belt.
ADULT BELT ONLY

SEPTEMBER (CONTINUED)

- 23* Vacaville/Solano/0335. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Child was in the “sleeper” compartment of a semi-truck when the driver (father) fell asleep. The truck drifted off the highway, overturned and burned. *A safety seat was not required in this vehicle.*
SEAT NOT REQUIRED

OCTOBER

- 12 Uninc./Kern/2016. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. Speeding driver (86 mph) attempted to pass slower vehicle on the left, entered center shoulder of the roadway, lost control and overturned. *Child was seated on her mother’s lap* in the right front seat. Child was ejected, mother was wearing safety belt and received only minor injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 16* Uninc./Merced/2200. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (father) failed to observe a semi-truck making a u-turn on the highway ahead of him. At the last minute the driver swerved in an attempt to avoid hitting the trailer of the semi-truck. The vehicle slid sideways and struck the corner of the trailer. Child was seated at point of impact.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT
- 17* Atascadero/San Luis Obispo/0750. 1-YR-OLD FEMALE. Driver (mother) lost control of her vehicle for unknown reasons. Vehicle left the roadway and overturned ejecting the driver and child. Child was riding in right front seat on a child safety seat but was not buckled into the seat. Second child (5 years old) was in rear seat in safety belt, remained in vehicle and survived.
INCORRECT USE
- 29 Uninc./Fresno/1510. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver (mother) lost control of vehicle for unknown reasons. Vehicle left roadway, overturned, and struck a tree. Child was at point of massive impact.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT

NOVEMBER

- 07 Hawthorne/Los Angeles/1925. 2-YR-OLD FEMALE. Armed robbery suspects being pursued by law enforcement vehicle failed to stop at a stop sign and struck a second vehicle which was legally in the intersection. Child in second vehicle suffered fatal injuries.
NO SAFETY SEAT

NOVEMBER (CONTINUED)

- 10 Uninc./Sacramento/0855. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Driver wasn't paying attention and allow his vehicle to strike a stopped vehicle ahead of him. *Child was riding on mother's lap* and suffered fatal injuries when he was crushed between the dashboard and his mother's body.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 14 Los Angeles/Los Angeles/0030. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Speeding (80 mph) DUI driver struck a second vehicle from the rear. Impact caused the second vehicle to go out of control. Second vehicle was struck again by first vehicle. Second vehicle then was propelled over an embankment. Vehicle received immense damage to left side and the roof was crushed into the passenger compartment inflicting fatal injuries on the child.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT

DECEMBER

- 02* Twenty-Nine Palms/San Bernardino/2131. 1-YR-OLD MALE. Speeding DUI (0.29%) driver crossed over the center line and struck a second vehicle head on. Child in second vehicle was riding in a safety seat which was buckled to the safety belt, but child was not buckled into the seat. Child was ejected from the vehicle and suffered fatal injuries.
IMPROPER USE
- 08 Uninc./Sacramento/1330. 3-YR-OLD FEMALE. As driver [mother] was backing out of a business parking lot, the child opened the right front door and fell out. Driver attempted to grab the child but her movement caused the front wheels of the vehicle to run over the child.
NO SAFETY SEAT/NO COLLISION
- 11* Uninc./Fresno/1755. 3-YR-OLD MALE. Driver failed to stop at a stop sign and resulting collision and rollover ejected unrestrained child.
NO SAFETY SEAT
- 31* Uninc./Butte/2335. 1-YR-OLD MALE. DUI driver (0.08%) failed to observe a second vehicle stopped to make a left turn. First vehicle rear ended second vehicle and pushed into intersection where it was struck broadside by third vehicle. Child in second vehicle was at point of impact.
SAFETY SEAT/MASSIVE IMPACT

UNDER 4 KILLED COUNT

(A) NO SAFETY SEAT

5,5,0,5,4,8,5,2,3

(B) SAFETY SEAT

0,0,3,1,2,0,1,2,2,

(C) IMPROPER USE

0,0,1,1,1,0,0,1,1

(D) ADULT BELT ONLY

0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0

(E) PRESENT BUT NOT USED

0,1,2,0,0,0,0,0,0

(F) NOT REQUIRED

0,0,1,0,0,0,0,1,0

(G) NO COLLISION

0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,1

(L) ON ADULT'S LAP

2,3,0,2,1,0,0,1,1

(H) HISPANIC SURNAME

1,2,3,6,2,5,5,3,3

TOTAL KILLED

5,6,7,7,7,8,7,6,6